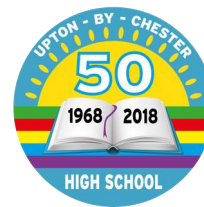




Upton Voice



Upton-by-Chester High School Newsletter

March 2019

Animal Management

We are gradually introducing animals into the school and they are becoming firm favourites at break and lunchtimes, when they go outside to stretch their furry little legs.

At present we have two guinea pigs, Charles and Darwin, and Cuddles the rabbit. Once the garden project in the Support department is complete the animals will move to their Summer homes where they will be joined by pygmy goats, chickens and a bearded dragon.

Mrs J. Pettener
Head of Science



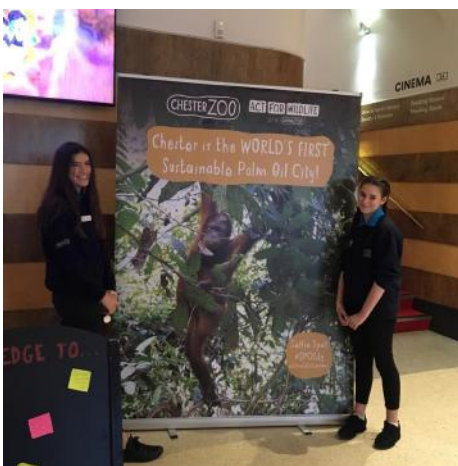
Fairtrade Fortnight Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated Fairtrade items. Some packages have now been distributed to Chester Aid to the Homeless.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

16 of the Year 10 students participating in this year's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award have been offered the opportunity to complete their volunteering at Chester Zoo. Students have been working at weekends over a 12 week period, assisting the Zoo's volunteering and marketing teams to undertake a range of activities. These include working on campaign projects, answering visitor questions about conservation and providing information about popular animals on site.

During this time, the students have learned about many of the Zoo's conservation campaigns, and have focussed on these four: 'Sing for Songbirds', 'Illegal Wildlife Trade', 'Sustainable Palm Oil', and 'Wildlife Connections'. A key part of the volunteering is for students to develop their own projects to teach people about what they can do help.



Recently, the Zoo celebrated Chester becoming the world's first sustainable palm oil city by hosting an event at the Storyhouse in Chester. The two students who chose to work on the 'Sustainable Palm Oil' project (Lisa and Eleanor) were invited to attend the event to help the Chester Zoo volunteer team to raise awareness of the campaign. The event was a great success and helped to highlight how people can get involved in the project by buying sustainable palm oil.

The volunteering comes to an end on 1st April, where students will present their campaign projects to the Chester Zoo team, friends and family.

Mrs Jackson

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Dear Parents, Carers, Students, Staff, Governors and Friends of Upton High School,

I'm sure you will enjoy reading of the myriad activities in which the staff and students have been involved over this relatively short, but nonetheless very busy, term.

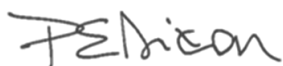
Our wonderful Performing Arts department, ably supported by PE, put on an amazing dance show earlier this week, showcasing all that is so good about our great school and students. In February we were privileged to watch the whole school musical production of Into the Woods, a real departure from the norm, which was spectacularly successful. Thanks must also go to the Art department for their beautiful scenery and to the stage and technical crew for their outstanding work.

This term we have also raised thousands of pounds for charity, including the Sixth Form Charity week in aid of the Meningitis Trust, our Green Day organised by the Eco schools' student leadership team and our Fairtrade Fortnight, providing food hampers to our local community.

It's also the time of year when revision for external examinations becomes a primary focus for our year 11 and 13 students, with many of them coming in for extra learning sessions organised by our teachers over the holiday (thank you!) and we wish them the very best of luck as they embark on the final leg of their journey.

Have a great Spring Break and I look forward to welcoming you back on April 15th.

With my very best wishes,



Mrs P. Dixon
Headteacher

Upton Team Takes Bronze in Cheshire And Merseyside Schools Orienteering League 2018-2019

Upton Orienteers put in some excellent performances over the five fixtures this year earning themselves an impressive third place out of the sixteen teams taking part. A total of 9 students from years 7, 8, 11 and 13 took part in at least one of the 5 events that were staged across the region during the season. The following students were awarded certificates for top three rankings in their age category:

Libby second in year 7 girls

Tom second in year 8 boys

Connor third in year 8 boys

Alex second in year 11 boys

Anyone interested in competing in the 2019-2020 league should look out for details in the student bulletin at the start of the next academic year.

Many thanks to Mrs Whieldon for organising the competition entries.

Mr Bell



Into the Woods—a triumph!



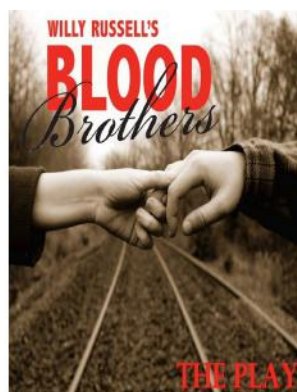
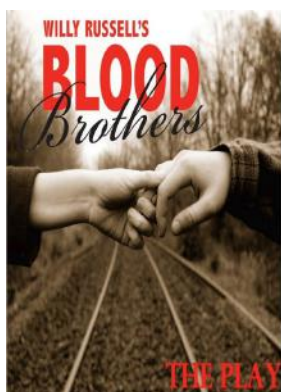
Some quotes from the audience....

Brilliant immersive entrance performance and great stage production.

Just loving #IntoTheWoods great fun, very clever and excellent cast.

Fantastic performance, well done to everyone involved.
Loved the interactive start!

The best production I have seen in 12 years! Your students were outstanding. The drama/performance and art department are an absolute credit to your school. I can't wait for next year's performance.



Tuesday 22nd October to Thursday 24th October
2019

Auditions

Wednesday 24th April and Thursday 25th April 2019
3.20pm to 5.30pm

Recalls week beginning 29th April 2019

Sixth Form Charity Week

Thank you to our whole school community for your amazing support during Sixth Form Charity Week. A special thanks to all of you who performed, played football, baked cakes, washed cars and helped us to organise everything. Over £3500 was raised for the Meningitis Research Foundation.

Miss Gordon & the Sixth Form Leadership Team



Geography trip to Chester University

On Wednesday 30th January 2019 after school, 7 geography students from Year 11 and Year 12 attended a lecture entitled **Megacities and Environmental Risk: disasters in the making**. As Welsh schools had a snow day, our students benefited by having a private lecture followed by a Q&A session. Students took away a wealth of knowledge on the Mexico Earthquake in 2017 and a deeper understanding of tectonic processes.

A great opportunity and thank you to all who attended.

Mrs K Mitchell
Head of Geography

Future Journalist Competition

Recently I entered the Future Journalist Competition, a competition where you had to either make a video of your choice or an article, and I was excited to hear that I had been asked to go to the awards ceremony. At the awards at Staffordshire University, I was so pleased to find out that I had won my age category (years 7-9). There were many guests at the awards including Rebecca Wood (a BBC Midlands presenter) and some lecturers from the University. For the winners of the competition, we got a £50 Amazon voucher and a trip to the University to try the television and radio equipment out! I am excited to be going back to the University in the holidays for the newsday experience.



Daisy
Year 8



Musical Theatre Trip

Miss Thompson and our Year 7 mini cast (with some Year 9s) recently attended the Addams Family Musical performed by On The Mark Youth Theatre. It was an amazing show and our students were a credit to the school. Also, one of our year 7 students - Morgan - was part of the production.

Year 8 Afternoon Tea

Miss Welch, Head of Year 8, was joined by a number of her year group at the end of the last half term for an afternoon tea. This was a reward for the number of 1s received in lessons (for outstanding performance) and 100% attendance. Well done everyone!



MFL Head of Department Awards

Mrs Stanisstreet would like to congratulate these linguists who worked really hard in the first half-term of 2019. Each lesson students keep track of their own sombreros, escargots or pretzels which teachers award for excellent effort and achievement in their MFL lessons. The following students all received Head of Department Awards just before February half-term for having the most rewards points in their class. Well done!

Year 7 : Megan; **Year 8:** Harry, Scarlet, Hannah, Areebah, Alice, Freya, Emma, Sam, Vienna, Daniel

Year 9: Minella, Charlie, Will; **Year 11:** Byron, Marcus, Ellie, Lottie, Ellie, Holly

Ski Trip 2019

Skiing was a blast. 5 fun packed days full of skiing. Every day we had an early start to the morning and had breakfast. We went on a half hour coach trip to the boot centre where we got our boots and skis. After that it was another half hour trip but this time it was on a gondolier. When we got to the slopes we all met up, then split into 4 groups, then went off with our instructors. We had 2 hours skiing, then we had lunch which was a variety of lovely foods. Then we had around another 3 hours on the slopes—what fun!

The instructors in the group were really friendly and a good laugh. We could mess around in the snow, throwing snowballs or pushing friends over before or after the lesson. I loved the skiing, it was hard to master some of the slopes but by the end of the week I could go on a red run (second most difficult) and fly down. I loved the speed I could go and I liked that by the end I could do tricks.



Every day when we all had finished skiing we would meet up outside the gondoliers. From there we went back to the boot centre and dropped off our boots, skis and poles. If we were lucky we would go to the big supermarket next-door and buy anything we wanted! (apart from energy drinks) Then we would get back on the coach back to the hotel.

On some nights we had special occasions such as bowling, going into town and the all favourite pizza night, the others were spent relaxing in the hotel, playing table football and lying on your bed imagining what tomorrow's skiing was going to be like. The hotel and staff were really nice and the manager would try to beat us at table football.

The journey to and from Italy was long and takes around 23 hours on a coach. We had 3 stops at service stations and 1 on a ferry. Despite the long journey, it was worth it, my skiing trip was fun and I'm sure anyone would enjoy it!

Ethan
Year 8



Spanish A Level Trip to Manchester Metropolitan University

In January our Spanish A Level students were accompanied by Mrs Stanisstreet on a visit to MMU to attend a conference aimed at improving essay writing skills on their A Level film, Pan's Labyrinth.

Led by Carmen Herrero, Head of Spanish at MMU, they were joined by students from other schools to take part in an interactive afternoon to develop their essay writing skills. They were a credit to our school, participating fully and listening very well. Muy bien!

Filippa said - "It was educational and we learnt about camera angles which was very interesting."

Rhona said - "Whilst learning about what to include and how to structure the essay, we learnt about camera angles, colours used and how they link with different characters and themes."



Spectroscopy In A Suitcase Workshop For Year 13 Chemistry Students

On Monday 11th March 2019 our 20 year 13 chemistry students attended a 2 hour workshop aimed at improving their skills in interpreting both infra-red and nuclear magnetic resonance spectra. The workshop was run by Katayune Presland from Manchester University and three of her undergraduate students. The Upton students also had a chance to run samples on the two machines brought into school. Many thanks to the Royal Society of Chemistry for funding the workshop.

Mr Bell



Autograss Racing

In January I was chosen to represent my motorsport Autograss Racing at the Autosport International Show at the NEC in Birmingham. My car was one of 40 cars from all around the country with thousands of people walking past and taking pictures during the show. Autograss is a non-contact family motorsport where we compete and travel around the country with home built cars. We race from 12 years old on an oval track in 8s using a natural soil surface.

Georgia
Year 9



Oxfam Action Team campaigning at Parliament for peace in Yemen

Students travelled to London to meet with MPs, Lords and Baronesses and discuss the war in Yemen. Our partner school in Yemen had been closed for a year and a half due to the destruction. The students, pictured here with Chris Matheson MP, spoke with MPs about what the UK government are doing to ensure that weapons supplied by the UK are not being used for wrong intentions.

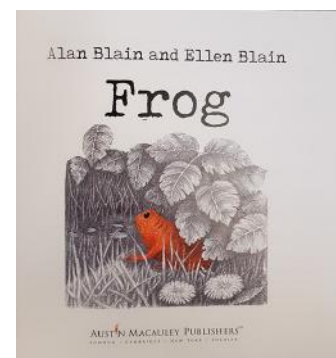
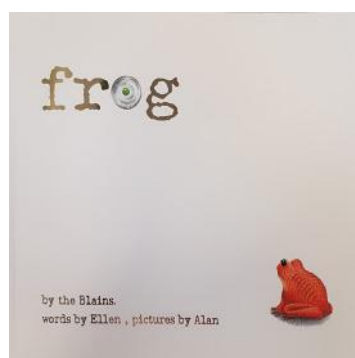
Mrs Smale
Head of RS and PSHCE



A published alumna

Ellen Blain left us in 2013 to begin her degree in Drama. Her passion for writing has led to her collaborating with her father, Alan, on the book "Frog." Alan is a retired Art teacher whose ambition was to create an illustrated children's book. The story concerns a young frog who is outcast for being 'different.'

Frog is available in bookshops and online now!



Sporting Success



Year 7
C&D Netball Plate Winners



Year 8 B Team
C&D Netball Champions



Year 8
C&D Netball Champions
and 4th in Cheshire

Year 11
C&D Football Cup Winners



Under 18
C&D Football Cup Winners



Dates for your diary

Monday 15th April — First day of term
 Friday 19th April — Good Friday (school closed)
 Monday 22nd April — Easter Monday (school closed)
 Thursday 2nd May — Year 12 Parents Evening
 Monday 6th May — May Bank Holiday (school closed)
 Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May — Half-term Break
 Monday 3rd June — Return to school
 Thursday 13th June — Sports Day
 Friday 14th June — Sports Day (Reserve)
 Thursday 27th June — Open Evening
 Friday 19th July — Last day of term (early closure)
 Return to school Wednesday 4th September 2019

Volunteers at the Aldi Chester 10k



Please check our website for our latest news and any changes to the school calendar.

<http://www.uptonhigh.co.uk>

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